



Icebreaker

Have you ever had a “wrong” friend? How did you know that friend was “wrong?”

Have you ever had a relationship break up for all the **right** reasons? What were some of those reasons?

In this group, we will be talking about when, why, and how to break up.

Paul, Barnabas, Mark & Silas

On Sunday, we considered a large number of passages in Acts to build out the background of Barnabas, Saul/Paul, and their relationship. What stood out to you from that account? For a refresher, you might want to consider Acts 4:33-37, 9:26-27, 11:19-26, 13:4-13.

Barnabas lifted Paul so high that Paul eventually overshadowed him. What do you think about that?

On Sunday, I mentioned that it’s easy to be Paul—waiting around for someone to recognize your potential and invest in you—but it’s hard to be Barnabas—reaching out to someone else and working to raise them up. What do you think about that? Are you tempted to be a Paul? Have you ever been a Barnabas?

The Conflict — Acts 15:36-41


Read Acts 15:36-41. What do you think of the conflict and break-up here?


On Sunday, I mentioned that the split-up between Paul and Barnabas was necessary for each of them to pursue their ultimate mission. After going their separate ways, Paul and Silas go on to have a world-transforming missionary journey starting churches among the Philippians, Corinthians, Thessalonians, and Ephesians. It was also on this trip that Paul met Luke, one of the most important figures in the writing of the New Testament. On the other hand, Barnabas’s investment in Mark resulted in Mark becoming an essential friend and ministry assistant to Paul and Peter and becoming the most important gospel writer.

What do you think of the results of the Paul and Barnabas break-up?

Take it Home

On Sunday, I encouraged everyone to consider the connection between their relationships and their mission. How would you answer these questions?

 What is my mission?

 Do I have the right relationships for it?



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